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February 3, 1959 material
Reported February 3

Synopsis of State and Intelligence material reported to the President

KUWAIT

Kuwait appears almost certain to join the Arab League in the near future and contribute heavily to the development fund project in an effort to insure itself against radical Arab nationalist agitation.

PORTUGAL

There are threats of a coup in this country to force Prime Minister Salazar into retirement. A considerable number of Army officers seem to sympathize strongly with General Delgado who has been in asylum in the Brazilian Embassy since January 12th. At the same time, it is expected there may be some student demonstrations in Barcelona, Spain during February with increasingly open expressions of discontent widespread in Spain.

ICELAND - UK

The fishery dispute flared up again on February 1st when British warships intervened after an Icelandic patrol vessel had apprehended a British trawler operating within the four-mile limit off Iceland's east coast. This is the first serious incident since mid-November although Icelanders have claimed repeated violations of a unilaterally proclaimed twelve-mile limit.

BERLIN CONVOY DETAINED BY THE SOVIETS

A convoy of 4 U.S. trucks from Berlin to the West Zone has been detained since 1:00 PM yesterday at the Soviet Marienborn checkpoint.

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E.O. 12356, SEC 3.4(b)	
Agency Case	NIC 82-241
NLE Case	82-9703
By	PLS
NLE Date	1/15/84

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The convoy had been cleared by the Soviets as it left Berlin but was held up at Marienborn on the basis that the commander of the convoy refused the Soviets the right to inspect the vehicles. The Soviets claimed they have no objection to the convoy returning to Berlin. Actually, the 4 trucks each contained a jeep being sent back for repair. The Soviet guards in Berlin had glanced into the back of the open truck, as is their custom, and had waived the convoy through. The guards at Marienborn demanded a more thorough inspection. The detention was protested three times during the day but all has been fruitless. USAREUR recommends that unless the convoy is permitted to proceed within twenty-four hours, a government-to-government protest be made and an emergency force of the Seventh Army be alerted to extract the vehicles. Army troops stationed near the Marienborn checkpoint have been permitted to supply the convoy with blankets and food. A British truck was also stopped yesterday but was allowed to proceed after inspection over the driver's protest. This incident appears to have been over-reported at first and it is apparent from a Norstad message that the British are not protesting the incident.

IRAN

Iranian Foreign Minister Hekmat informed Wailes last night that he was fed up with the Soviet negotiators and ready to break off further negotiations for a non-aggression pact. He added that he had studied the draft U.S. bilateral agreement, and was prepared to sign immediately. He will see the Shah early today to seek agreement, and urge a Parliamentary announcement. In discussion with Sandys on Sunday, the Shah stated that the USSR proposals were thus far unacceptable. He said he would sign an agreement that met the original Iranian terms. Sandys was surprised that these terms had not been snatched up by the Soviets.

ISRAEL - SYRIA

Hammaraskjold said yesterday that he is prepared, with U.S./U.K./French support, but without prior approach to the UAR or Israel, to order the UNTSO commander to investigate the border area. He fears the UK may consult with Israel for he expects Israel and the UAR to oppose his idea.

John S. Eisenhower

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